

CLAIMS

1. A method for generating rating notification to a user of a requested service in a communications system,
5 **characterised by** the steps of:
 traversing a tariff structure (101),
 during the traversing, detecting one or more notification triggers for intermediate conditions (102),
 and
10 sending one or more notifications resulting from said one or more notifications requests to the user (104,107) .
2. A method according to claim 1, **characterised by**, after the step of detecting said one or more notification requests, the further step of analysing said detected one or more notification requests to determine if the notification should be sent directly to the user (3) or to be collected for post-analysis (103),
15 if the notification is determined to be sent directly (103'), sending said one or more notifications to the user (3),
 else, storing said one or more notification request for post-analysis.
- 25 3. A method according to claim 2, **characterised by** the step of, if one or more notifications are collected for post-analysis, analysing all unsent notifications (105) for determining which are to be sent.
- 30 4. A method according to claim 2 or 3, **characterised by** the step of merging one or more messages before they are sent to the user (106).
- 35 5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the merging is determined by a merging logic.

6. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that said analysis is run on enquiry;
before, during or after session/call/purchase; or before,
during, or after refill.

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7. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that said one or more notification
requests are for price enquiries.

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8. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that all conditions fulfilled during
traversal is output as a log, wherein said log is processed
in a subsequent step by a separate process to analyse the
performed rating and produce corresponding one or more
15 notifications.

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9. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that specific triggers in the tariff
structure triggers notifications that can either be issued
20 in real-time or collected for further processing.

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10. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that one or more condition that is
fulfilled is sent to an external notification process for
25 analysis.

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11. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that a log of how the tariff structure has
been traversed is created and processed after the analyses
30 for generating a notification(s).

12. A method according to any preceding claim,
characterised in that the conditions affect the result
being determined.

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13. A method according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the notification is sent to another destination than the terminal involved in the chargeable session.

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14. A computer program comprising program instructions for causing a computer to perform the method of any of the claims 1-13.

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15. A computer program on a carrier and comprising computer executable instructions for causing a computer to perform the method according to claims 1-13.

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16. A computer program according to claim 15, wherein said carrier is a record medium, computer memory, read-only memory or an electrical carrier signal.

17. A system for generating rating notification(s) to a user in a communications system

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characterised by rating means (1) including a computer apparatus adapted to perform the method of any of the claims 1-13.

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18. A system as in claim 17, wherein said system is operating in a mobile communications system.

19. A system as in claim 17, wherein said system is an Internet protocol based protocol or a common channel signalling system.

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20. A system as in any of the claims 17-19, wherein said service is a prepaid service.

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21. A system as in any of the claims 17-20, wherein said service is an electronic commerce/payment service.